

Easterling, Deborah

229476

From: Easterling, Deborah
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2011 1:59 PM
To: 'no1bum@aol.com'
Subject: RE: General Statement

Dear Ms. Summers:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your second email to our PSC Website Comments.

I am forwarding your email to our Clerk's Office for handling. Your additional comments will become a part of Docket No. 2011-47-WS and will be posted on our website under this Docket.

Please let me know if you should require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Deborah Easterling

From: no1bum@aol.com [mailto:no1bum@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2011 10:26 AM
To: Contact
Subject: Spam: General Statement

Dear PSC,

I have written before about utilities asking for rate increases but I wanted to tell you what I know here in our neighborhood is happening. I know, because I have owned a small business before (Bums Factory Outlet on Broad River Rd.) that you need to keep up with the rising cost of services and goods in order to make a living. That being said, we are in a depressed state of funds here in SC and Lexington County. We have people every day losing their jobs and having their position downsized. In our small neighborhood alone, we have several seniors on soc. sec which hasn't gone up but their medicine, most food and doctor bills have, we have one couple who just walked on their home, allowing it to go into foreclosure and losing everything they had in it, a family of 5 whose main breadwinner took a serious cut in pay to keep a job. Another who lost his job after being with the company for 20 years and our homes are over 20 years old, needing major repairs. I live alone, a senior, who had to put a roof and a heat and air con. system on charge cards, not getting any raise in soc sec and having to do pet and baby sitting to put gas in the car. SCEG asked for rate increases, the water system asking for a huge rate increase and we are just trying to keep our homes. Property taxes and insurance went up because of the reassessment (hugely unfair on these older homes) and that ...all that..adds to your mortgage payment. Seriously, we are trying to keep our homes, not declare bankruptcy, not walk away, pay our bills and feed our families.

There just isn't any more money coming in, but everyone wants more out. The family of 5 whose meter the water company took out, she was trying to catch up on her mortgage payment because they were threatening foreclosure. These utilities need a spokesperson to talk, just talk, to people to assess the situation or they need to do "means testing" to see if people can really stand that increase all right now or if they can phase it in, over a period of time, as the economy gets better, (if it does) I am 71, I could get a few hours of work somewhere like Wal Mart..maybe...but the cost of gas and clothing to wear to work would just eliminate whatever I could make.

Work with us, that particular water company has a bad reputation and we wish we could be taken over by another one. We already pay some of, or the highest rates around. Thank you for listening to me and thank you from all my neighbors for your consideration.

Barbara Summers
158 Sparrow Pointe Rd.
Lexington SC 29073

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